

Rural District of Amesbury

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1965



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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at December, 1965)

Chairman: Councillor A. L. Mousley

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Lt.-Col. B. L. Franklin, Chairman of the Council

Councillor H. W. Annetts	Councillor V. R. Lanfear
Councillor Mrs. O. Bruce White	Councillor J. C. Lorison
Councillor Mrs. M. J. Crook	Councillor M. McNamara
Councillor E. G. N. Grant	Councillor J. F. Ruddy
Councillor Major H. W. Hibbert	Councillor A. D. Underwood
	Councillor F. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F. D. F. Steede, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Council Offices, 1 The Green,
Marlborough (Tel. 487 and 118)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

I. L. Fisher, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

R. Wilkinson, C.S.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Operator:

R. H. Coombes

Clerk (M.O.H. Office):

Miss G. M. Boswell

Clerk (R.D.C. Office):

Mrs. P. Wilson

Public Health Department, The Council Offices,
Redworth House, Amesbury, Salisbury, Wilts.

Telephone Nos.: Amesbury 3255-6

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Borough of Marlborough and the Rural Districts of Marlborough and Ramsbury and Pewsey. These combined districts have a population of 64,910 and an area of 235,289 acres. They have appointed a Joint Committee, the East Wiltshire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Committee, to deal with all matters relating to the office of Medical Officer of Health. The Medical Officer also performs duties for the Wiltshire County Council under the National Health Service, Education and Mental Health Acts.

RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY

East Wilts United Districts (M.O.H.) Office,
1, The Green,
Marlborough.

Telephone 487 and 118.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT :

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Crook and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second annual report, for the year 1965, which is compiled on similar lines as last year to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. I am grateful to Mr. Fisher, the Chief Public Health Inspector, for his report which is again included. I am also indebted to Dr. Lycett, the County Medical Officer, for supplying me with details of immunisation procedures carried out.

The district though primarily concerned with agriculture is also of great importance, in that, it accommodates a number of military establishments in which a significant proportion of the population find their employment. The very pleasant town of Amesbury, situated on the river Avon, in spite of the near proximity of Salisbury, is an increasingly important shopping centre for the surrounding area. The district is important from the communication point of view, as in addition to other link roads it is traversed by the A303 London to Exeter trunk road. It has a considerable attraction for visitors and contains many examples of archaeological and architectural interest, including the pre-historic Stonehenge, while part of the Avon valley which lies between Amesbury and Salisbury is amongst the most beautiful stretches of river scenery to be found anywhere.

During the year the health of the district has given no real cause for anxiety, although during the months July and August there was an outbreak of sonne dysentery with 100 known cases, mainly in children.

The vital statistics are based on figures supplied by the Registrar General. The number of deaths, 178, is only two more than in 1964, giving an adjusted death rate of 10.84 per 1,000 population, virtually unchanged, and again below that of the national average. The number of births, 618, four down on last year, with an adjusted rate of 21.11, is higher than the national average. The natural increase, taking into account births and deaths is 440, but the estimated mid-year population of 27,240 shows a larger increase of 1,540. About half of these can be accounted for by the private development, much of it in the Bourne valley area, which has taken place this year.

The infant mortality rate, I am glad to say, this year is lower, although still slightly above the national average. Of the fourteen infant deaths which have taken place, only four in contrast to the thirteen out of sixteen, which occurred last year, were in families where the father was a member of the Regular Forces. None were due to accidental causes, again in contrast to

last year, when there were six; five from suffocation and one from a fall. There were ten deaths from lung cancer, all in males, four below the age of 65 and one in the 45-55 age group. This represents almost 50% of the deaths from cancer from all causes in males, which has occurred during the year, and 31% from all causes of cancer in both sexes. It is a fair generalization that these deaths only occur in nine cases out of ten because the victim was a cigarette smoker, and I make no apologies for again drawing attention to the serious health hazard that this habit-forming, expensive custom carries. Again I must point out that lung cancer is only a part of the story, since there is evidence that cigarette smoking aggravates chronic bronchitis and may well be a factor in its causation also, while there is no doubt that coronary thrombosis is much more likely to occur in the younger cigarette smoker than in the non-smoker. I feel that, perhaps sufficient attention has not been given to the figures for the expectation of life in the report of The Royal College of Physicians on smoking where the statement is made "That the chance of dying in the next ten years for a man aged 35 who is a heavy cigarette smoker is 1 in 23, whereas the risk for a non-smoker is only 1 in 90." It seems odd to me that people are prepared to pay hard-earned money to maintain a habit which carries the certainty that for many, permanent injury to health or premature death will result. Apart from personal unhappiness and suffering, there is the economic side of the picture, in that, the nation is deprived of a great many man hours, while a considerable proportion of fire damage is caused by the careless habits of cigarette smokers.

Deaths from heart disease fell from 54 to 45, but of these the number dying from coronary heart disease show little change at twenty-nine; nineteen of these twenty-nine were males, and the difference may perhaps reflect to some extent the incidence of the cigarette smoking habit in the sexes. Apart from this, over-indulgence in diet and lack of daily exercise are clearly important predisposing factors under individual control.

Accidental deaths were down this year I am glad to say, with a total of eleven. Seven of these were due to motor vehicle accidents, while of the four others, one occurred as a result of a fall in the home. I am glad to be able to report that the Council have had a Standing Committee concerned with the prevention of accidents, in the home and on the road, for some years now.

Housing conditions are reasonably good, although the waiting list for Council accommodation stood at 538 at the end of the year. Of this number, 173, which includes 46 Council tenants, were applicants for bungalow accommodation. In addition, there were 325 residential caravans concentrated mainly on six sites. Caravans tend to make for difficulties, since many of these are occupied by people with little or no connection with the district, and who often present a serious rehousing problem, particularly where children are concerned. I would welcome greater powers for the control of caravan dwelling, particularly with regard to over-crowding. The Council are to be congratulated by the manner in which they deal with the allocation of their houses and their housing administration generally. Housing applications are now in the administrative control of the Public Health

Department and every effort is always made to ensure that due consideration is given to housing needs, and to help in this matter a points scheme is envisaged. The Council continue to give attention to the question of re-housing their elderly residents, and I feel they need not have too much fear of over-building for this purpose, since the application list is not perhaps in this age group, as good an indication of demand. Old people very often do not put their names on the list until their present housing circumstances are posing urgent physical problems for them.

Unfortunately, so far a meals on wheels service has not materialised, in spite of a good deal of spade work by the County Welfare Department. This is a service for which, in my view, there is an undoubted need which will not diminish over the years.

The number of families presenting problems in the area is relatively small, but again one must pay tribute to the value of the Standing Coordinating Committee which meets regularly, and to the Council's progressive housing policy, which have resulted in a number of cases being resolved satisfactorily. Here I would like to pay tribute also to the Health Visitors of the County Health Department, who quietly keep many a family "on the rails" and prevent really serious problems from ever arising.

Food hygiene on the whole is reasonably good. Some problems have arisen with regard to the control of mobile fish shops operating from no fixed base, and I look forward to stronger powers foreshadowed in new governing regulations. Again I make no apology in emphasizing the necessity for food handlers to be punctilious with regard to their personal hygiene, and in particular hand washing. I deplore the communal towel in all food premises, particularly in a district such as this, where due to its military connections one is liable to have sporadic importations of excremental diseases, particularly sonne dysentery.

A small amount of milk is still being sold raw in certain parts of the district, and in fact, I understand that there is a certain amount of prejudice in favour of raw milk in one parish. Although bovine tuberculosis is virtually a thing of the past, raw milk on occasions can carry the organisms responsible for brucellosis, food poisoning and rarely enteric fever. I believe that compulsory pasteurization is a practicable proposition, provided that there are provisions for exemption in cases of hardship. In the meantime I strongly advise all parents to obtain heat treated milk for consumption by their children.

Mr. Fisher has referred in his report to drainage and sewerage, and I agree with him, that it is a matter for regret, that main drainage has had to be delayed in the developing Bourne valley area.

Water supplies generally speaking have been adequate, and have not yet come under the control of the South Wilts Water Board. I say again, that in my opinion, the Board should have the advice of a suitably qualified medical officer as a consultant on public health aspects appointed to their staff, on a part time basis. The Council considered the question of fluorida-

tion, and after prolonged deliberation came to a narrow decision against it. Inevitably sooner or later, fluoridation of water supplies must be introduced; delay, however, means the loss, in whole or in part, of the dental benefits for children which should be theirs, and it means too, that our overburdened dental service will be faced with more unnecessary dental decay, to attempt to cope with, and for which the taxpayer foots the bill.

In concluding this report I should like to thank the Council and members of the Public Health Committee for the very great deal of support which they have given me during the year. I am also grateful to the officers of the Council for their helpfulness and consideration, and particularly to Mr. Fisher and his staff for the very hard work which they have put in during a busy year. I should also like to thank Dr. Lishman, who acts as my Deputy, for his ready help and advice. I am very grateful to Dr. Wormald and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury, for their continued co-operation, often at very short notice. Finally I should like to thank my clerical assistant, Miss Boswell, not only for the conscientious way she has carried out her work during the year, but also for her valued assistance with this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Crook and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. D. F. STEEDE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres ...	63,455
Number of Parishes ...	17
Population, Registrar-General's mid-year estimate ...	27,240
Number of inhabited houses, flats and bungalows ...	4,952
Number of houses, flats and bungalows owned by the Council ...	1,450
Rateable value (as at 1.4.65) ...	£939,388
Product of a Penny Rate (estimated) ...	£3,645

VITAL STATISTICS

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Live births—Legitimate</i> ...	306	282	588
<i>Illegitimate</i> ...	13	17	30
Totals	319	299	618

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	22.7		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	...	...	4.9		
Stillbirths—Legitimate	...	...	6	4	10
Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
			6	5	11

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	17.5	
Total Live and Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	629	
Deaths	110	68	178
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	6.53	
Infant Deaths (under one year)—Legitimate	...	...	...	8	5	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Totals				9	5	14	

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	22.65			
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			22.1			
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			33.3			
Neonatal Deaths—Legitimate	...	...	...	4	3	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
				—	—	—
			Totals	5	3	8

Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...			13.0
Early Neonatal Deaths—Legitimate	...	4	2	6
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Totals	5	2	7

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	11.32
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one year combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...)	39.7
Maternal Mortality including abortion ...	nil

	<i>Year</i>				
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Infants' Deaths ...	12	19	18	19	14
Infant Mortality Rate ...	21.7	20.1	25.7	29.27	22.65

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1965

<i>Causes of Death</i>					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	2	1	3
11	„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	...	10	—	10
12	„ „ breast	...	...	...	—	2	2
13	„ „ uterus	...	...	...	—	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	9	5	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	11	11	22
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	19	10	29
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	2	3
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	5	8	13
21	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	7	3	10
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	3	12
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	1	9
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	1	—	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	—	3
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	3	1	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	10	12	22
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	6	1	7
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	1	4
35	Suicide	...	...	...	1	2	3
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
All Causes					110	68	178

Comparison with England and Wales

	<i>per 1,000 population</i>		<i>per 1,000 Live Births</i>	<i>per 1,000 Total Births</i>
	<i>Live Births (Adjusted)</i>	<i>Death Rate (Adjusted)</i>	<i>Infant Mortality</i>	<i>Stillbirths</i>
Amesbury Rural District	21.11	10.84	22.65	17.5
England and Wales	18.0	11.5	19.0	15.7

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

General Practitioners:

Dr. R. C. P. Aldridge, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	}	Fovant House, Amesbury. Tel.: Amesbury 3294.
Dr. D. G. Twyman, M.B.		
Dr. B. Batten, M.B.	}	62 Salisbury Street, Amesbury. Tel.: Amesbury 3249.
Dr. A. P. Davies, M.B., B.S.		
Dr. D. R. Clarke, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.		Garden Ground, Durrington. Tel.: Durrington Walls 221.
Dr. R. J. B. H. Jones, M.B., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.		Pinckney's Farm House, Durrington. Tel.: Durrington Walls 378.
Dr. J. A. Pattilo, M.B.		Springbourne, Shrewton. Tel.: Shrewton 259.

Hospitals:

Odstock Hospital, Salisbury. Tel.: Salisbury 5111.

The Old Manor Hospital, Salisbury. Tel.: Salisbury 3216/7/8.

Salisbury General Infirmary. Tel.: Salisbury 3231.

(Venereal Disease Clinic, Males Tuesdays and Fridays. Females Wednesdays and Saturdays).

Public Health Laboratory:

Salisbury General Infirmary (Dr. P. Wormald). Tel.: Salisbury 3231.

County Council Health Department Services:

(a) *Ambulance Facilities*: Ambulance Control Centre, Odstock Road, Salisbury.

(b) *District Midwifery and Home Nursing*: (M=Midwifery; HN=Home Nursing).

Miss M. McPherson (M & HN), 21, Lynchetts Road, Amesbury. Tel.: Amesbury 3110.	Amesbury
Miss A. M. Lewis (M & HN), 100 High Street, Netheravon. Tel.: Netheravon 344.	Figcheldean
Miss M. Phillips (M & HN), Birdlymes Estate, Porton. Tel.: Idmiston 270.	Allington, Cholderton, Idmiston, Newton Tony, Winterbourne
Miss L. D. Browning (M), 35 Meads Road, Durrington. Tel.: Durrington Walls 297.	Larkhill Garrison Bulford Milston
Mrs. G. D. Beavin (HN), 7 Southmill Road, Amesbury. Tel.: Amesbury 2058.	Durrington Bulford Garrison
Mrs. G. D. Beavin (M & HN),	Durnford, Woodford, Wilsford

Mrs. Q. M. Withers (M & HN), Orcheston, Shrewton, Tilshead,
Lady Close, Shrewton. Winterbourne Stoke
Tel.: Shrewton 277.

(c) *Clinics: Maternity and Child Welfare.*

Amesbury: Methodist Church Hall.

First and third Tuesday of month, 2.30-4 p.m.

Bulford (Camp): Infant Welfare Centre.

Every Tuesday, 2-4 p.m.

Bulford (Village): The Parish Hall.

First and third Wednesdays of each month, 2-4 p.m.

Durrington: The Memorial Hall.

Second and fourth Thursday of each month, 2-4 p.m.

Larkhill: Welfare Building, The Packway.

Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, 2-4 p.m.

Porton/Idmiston: Parish Memorial Hall.

First Wednesday of each month, 10-12 noon.

(d) *Health Visitors:*

Mrs. J. M. Heard,
Kingfishers, Idmiston.
Tel.: Idmiston 366.

Allington, Boscombe M.Q., Chol-
derton, Idmiston, Newton
Tony, Winterbourne

Miss I. W. Sanders,
5 The Croft, Milston.
Tel.: Durrington Walls 500.

Bulford Village, Durrington

Mrs. E. Richards,
Pemn, The Street, All Cannings.
Tel.: Cannings 661.

Tilshead

(e) *Mental Welfare Officer:*

Mental Health Centre, Salt Lane, Salisbury. Tel.: Salisbury 27551.

County Council Welfare Department:

Mr. R. A. Whines, 50 Bedwin Street, Salisbury. Tel.: Salisbury 5349.

County Council Children's Department:

50 Bedwin Street, Salisbury. Tel.: Salisbury 5349.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES — General

The incidence of infectious disease, apart from dysentery and measles, was very low. The outbreak of dysentery began in the Amesbury/Boscombe Down area, and later cases occurred in Shrewton, Newton Tony and Winterbourne Stoke. The first known case was moderately severe and was admitted to hospital with convulsions on 17th July. The last known case of the 100 notified, occurred on 15th October. Every effort was made by the Public Health staff to identify carriers and there were three instances where it was necessary to place restrictions on a food handler, under section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1961.

I am very pleased with the figures for vaccination against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis. Great credit is due to the County Health Department staff, family doctors and parents for their conscientious attention to this vital matter. Vaccination against smallpox is less good, but much better than last year, by no less than 80 primary vaccinations.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1965

Disease	Total cases all ages	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of total cases in age groups												
				Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	Age unknown
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	100	—	—	—	3	8	5	6	35	6	2	32	1	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles ...	215	—	—	—	17	28	35	42	73	10	3	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	321	—	—	9	20	36	40	48	108	17	5	32	3	3	—	—

IMMUNISATION STATISTICS, 1965

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

<i>Year of Birth</i>		1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1956-60	1950-55	Others under 16
Primary immunisations completed during 1965	Diph.	199	340	29	16	12	46	—	—
	Wh/c.	199	339	23	14	5	4	—	—
	Tet.	200	341	29	16	12	81	6	1
Reinforcing injections administered during 1965	Diph.	—	84	237	44	26	367	57	—
	Wh/c.	—	54	138	33	7	13	1	—
	Tet.	—	84	238	53	28	411	77	—

Smallpox Vaccination

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Months</i>				<i>Years</i>		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	1	10	6	27	306	91	12
Re-vaccinations	—	—	—	—	2	1	23

Poliomyelitis Immunisation

<i>Age Group</i>	3rd Quad.	2nd inj.	3rd inj. or 4th Quad.	4th inj.	3 oral doses	2 orals after 2 inj.	4th oral after 3 inj. or 3 oral
1965	—	—	—	—	76	—	—
1964	—	—	—	—	473	—	—
1963	—	—	—	—	96	—	9
1962	—	—	—	—	50	—	3
1961	—	—	—	—	33	—	15
1956-60	—	—	—	—	120	3	293
1950-55	—	—	—	—	11	—	42
Otrs. udr. 16	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Otrs. ovr. 16	—	—	—	—	67	—	7
Totals	—	—	—	—	927	3	369

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector for the year 1965

Redworth House,
Amesbury,
Salisbury, Wilts.
Telephone 3255.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Crook and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventeenth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors' Department during the year 1965, and details of the public health services of the Council in the District. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/66.

I should like to thank the members of the Council and particularly the members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for the support given to me during the year.

It also gives me great pleasure to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation of Dr. Steede and the staff of the Public Health Department, and of my colleagues in other Departments of the Council.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Crook and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. L. FISHER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

July, 1966.

SANITARY INSPECTION IN THE AREA

Number and Nature of Visits or Inspections during 1965

GENERAL SANITATION

Number of Inspections re Water Supply	...	...	...	22
Number of Inspections re Drainage of Property	...	...	...	812
Number of Inspections re Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	42
Number of Inspections of Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	3
Number of Inspections of Caravan Sites	...	...	...	96
Number of Inspections under Factories Act	...	...	...	24
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	17
Number of Inspections of Licensed Premises	...	...	...	4
Number of Inspections re Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	9
Number of Inspections under Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	4
Number of Inspections under Animal Boarding Establishments Act	...	...	...	8
Number of Inspections under Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	350
Number of Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	9
Number of Inspections of Schools	...	...	...	10
Number of Inspections under Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	...	...	...	16
Number of Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	144
Number of Visits re Sampling of Water Supplies	...	...	...	100
Number of Visits re Sampling of Sewage Effluent	...	...	...	18

HOUSING

Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Act	...	67	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspections)	...	66	
		<hr/>	133
Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	78	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspection)	...	434	
		<hr/>	512
Number of Houses inspected re Overcrowding	...	...	3
Number of Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	228
Number of Houses inspected re Verminous Conditions	...	1	
Number of Visits paid to above Houses (Re-inspection)	...	1	
		<hr/>	2
Number of Property Owners/Agents and Builders Interviewed	...	...	146

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	84
Number of Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	616

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

Number of Visits to Poultry Packing Station	...	...	23
Number of Visits to Knackers Yard	...	...	7
Number of Visits to Butchers' Shops	...	...	24
Number of Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	3
Number of Visits to Grocers	...	...	43
Number of Visits to Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	32
Number of Visits to Ice-cream Premises	...	...	7
Number of Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	3
Number of Visits to Food Preparing Premises	...	...	42
Number of Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	29
		<hr/>	3479

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections made of factories for purposes of provisions as to health revealed that conditions are generally satisfactory. In only one instance was it necessary to take any action and the works required were carried out on verbal request.

The following is a list of factories in the district:—

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	6
Engineering, including Garages	...	...	23
Electricity Generating	...	...	1
Joinery, woodworking	...	...	13
Testing of Flow Meters	...	...	1
Milk Pasteurising	...	...	1
Laundering	...	...	2
Corn Milling	...	...	1
Manufacture of Explosives	...	...	2
Vehicle Painting	...	...	2
Tailoring	...	...	1
Aircraft Testing	...	...	1
Instrument Repairs	...	...	1
Fibre Glass and Resin Moulding	...	...	2
Cine Film Camera Testing	...	...	1
Cinematograph Film Manufacture	...	...	1
Oil Gas	...	...	1
Radio and Electric Equipment Repairs	...	...	2
Fruit Juice and Bottle Washing	...	...	1
Upholstery and Furniture Repairs	...	...	1
Packing of Plastic Products	...	...	1
Poultry Processing	...	...	1
Knackers Yards	...	...	1
			67

OUTWORKERS

Any outwork carried out in the district, is confined to the manufacture of knitted wear for firms situated outside the area. Inspections were made of the premises in respect of which notification was received but in no case was any action found to be necessary.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection service, affording a weekly collection to all parishes in the district, continued satisfactorily during the year.

The service was extended during the latter part of the year to include the Ministry of Defence (Army) properties at Larkhill. The Council also took over from the Ministry of Defence (Army) the tip in use by them at Larkhill.

The separation of salvagable materials has continued throughout the year with very satisfactory results, all such materials being sold to contractors.

HOUSING

Work proceeded steadily throughout the year on the erection of houses in the Parishes of Amesbury and Bulford and a number of these were occupied by the end of the year. Smaller units of development at Figheldean, Newton Tony and Winterbourne were also completed. In all parishes the number of dwellings completed was 84, and a further 84 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. The Council also approved tenders for the erection of a further 24 houses and 16 flats at Bulford, and the approval of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government to these tenders was awaited at the end of year.

As from the 1st January, 1965, certain aspects of housing management, including the preparation and maintenance of the Housing Waiting List, and the allocation of tenancies were transferred from the Engineer & Surveyor's Department to the Public Health Department. Whilst this has added considerably to the work of the department it is which is closely allied to that of the department, and many of the enquiries required to be made have been carried out during the course of normal routine work under the Housing Acts.

During the year the Council gave serious consideration to its method of allocation of tenancies of Council Houses, and resolved to introduce as from the 1st January, 1966, a Points Scheme under which all allocations of tenancies would be made.

The work of modernising the Council's older houses proceeded steadily throughout the year.

The provision of housing accommodation by private enterprise building, whilst not as great as in the previous year, was again significant, 159 houses or bungalows being completed during the year and a further 82 being under construction at the end of the year.

Although the Council found it necessary to suspend for the time being, the making of Discretionary Grants, thus reducing the number of dwellings improved under this method, more applications were received for Standard Grants, and the total number of dwellings improved under both schemes was comparable with that for former years. Thirteen dwellings were completed under the Discretionary Grant scheme, the grants amounting to £3,901 11s. 3d. and Standard Grants amounting to £3,103 2s. 6d. were paid in respect of twenty dwellings at which the standard amenities were provided. In a number of these latter cases the owners were, in my opinion, prepared to carry out the works by virtue of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964, which permits the payment of standard grants in excess of £155 where the provision of a bathroom can only be achieved either by a structural addition or conversion of an outbuilding, the provision of septic tank drainage where no sewer exists, and when a supply of mains water is laid on for the first time.

The following table shows the action taken during the year by the department under the Housing and Public Health Acts:—

(i) Inspection for housing defects under Public Health Act	...	67
(ii) Inspection for housing defects under Housing Acts	...	68
(iii) Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	...	9
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	...	74
(v) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	46
<i>Action under Statutory Powers</i>		
A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 12, Housing Act, 1957.		
(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	...	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.		
(i) Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	—
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal Notices		
(a) By owners	...	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	—
C. Proceedings under section 16, Housing Act, 1957.		
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	...	8
(ii) Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders	...	*12
(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted	...	—
(iv) Number of Undertakings completed	...	—
D. Proceedings under sections 42, 43, 46 and 48, Housing Act, 1957.		
(i) Number of houses in Clearance Area upon which Demolition Orders were made	...	—
(ii) Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders		7
(iii) Number of houses in Clearance Area which have been retained as temporary accommodation	...	—
E. Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 27, Housing Act, 1957, and section 26, Housing Act, 1961.		
(i) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	...	1
(ii) Number of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners	...	1
(iii) Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	...	—
F. Proceedings under section 76, Housing Act, 1957.		
(i) Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year	...	2
(ii) Number of Cases of overcrowding abated during year	...	1
*Includes 2 houses demolished voluntarily by owners in anticipation of Demolition Orders.		

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's Rodent Service, which is administered by a Joint Committee comprising members of this and two neighbouring authorities has operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

One Rodent Operator/Inspector is employed and he shares his time with each of the three authorities. This arrangement, which has existed since the inception of the scheme has again proved adequate to ensure that all complaints received are dealt with expeditiously and to permit regular routine survey work to be carried out.

The control measures recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food are closely followed by the Rodent Operator who works under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The following table sets out the work carried out by the Rodent Operator/Inspector during the year:—

	Type of Property Non-Agricultural				
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	25	4952	258	5235	128
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	—	82	7	89	2
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	81	7	88	2
Ship Rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	8	987	42	1037	52
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat Major	1	—	—	1	—
Minor	2	39	—	41	19
Ship Rat Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—

	<i>Type of Property Non-Agricultural</i>				
	(1) <i>Local Auth- ority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	(3) <i>All other</i>	(4) <i>Total of Cols. (1), (2) and (3)</i>	(5) <i>Agric- ultural</i>
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
5. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections	25	1091	52	1178	54
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections 2, 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	4	121	7	132	2
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	21	138	10	169	2
8. Number of notices served under section 4 of the Act: (a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
	(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under section 4 of the Act.	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out		N I L			

WATER SUPPLY

Regional Water Supply

All parishes in the district have a mains water supply, and all but three are supplied from the Council's boreholes at Newton Tony and Shrewton. A supply of water is also afforded to the Garrison area at Larkhill from the Council's boreholes at Durrington. These supplies have been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year.

A number of small water main extensions have been made to afford a supply of water to new estates development.

Thirty-four samples of water from these sources were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year and all were found to be satisfactory.

One sample of each supply was also submitted for chemical examination and copies of the reports are given below:—

Newton Tony

Physical Characters	...	...	...	Crystal clear, colourless: no deposit					
Chemical	...	...	...	...	...	Parts per million			
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.4			
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Oxygen absorbed from premanganate in three hours at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.35		
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.0		
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.7		
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	...	208		
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	148		
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	60		
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Nitrates (Nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Fluoride	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.08		
Opinion: Satisfactory.									

Shrewton

Physical Characters	...	...	...	Crystal clear, colourless: no deposit					
Chemical	...	...	...	...	...	Parts per million			
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	Alkaline pH 7.2			
Saline and free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Organic (or "albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Oxygen absorbed from premanganate in three hours at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.95		
Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.5		
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.5		
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	...	225		
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	161		
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	64		
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Nitrates (Nitrous nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil		
Fluoride	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03		
Opinion: Satisfactory.									

Other Supplies

The undermentioned parishes obtain a supply of water from undertakings not owned by the Council:—

Cholderton (Cholderton Water Company).

Tilshead and Figcheldean (supplies taken in bulk from the Ministry of Defence (Army)).

Samples of water taken regularly from each of the above supplies have been found to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

The following table gives details of the estimated number of dwelling houses and caravans and the estimated population in each parish supplied from public water mains. This table does not take into account Service personnel and premises occupied by them, nor does it include properties obtaining piped water from private estates supplies.

There are no public standpipes in the district.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Estimated Total Population</i>	<i>Estimated number of Dwelling Houses and Caravans connected direct to Public Piped Water Supplies</i>	<i>Estimated popu- lation supplied from Public Water Mains direct to Houses and Caravans</i>
Allington	405	108	370
Amesbury	4,470	1,250	4,400
Bulford	700	238	700
Cholderton	205	66	205*
Durnford	400	80	300
Durrington	3,020	840	3,000
Figcheldean	865	240	825
Idmiston	2,010	447	1,630
Milston	250	82	250*
Newton Tony	365	73	245
Orcheston	300	96	270
Shrewton	1,430	392	1,310
Tilshead	302	94	302*
Wilsford-cum-Lake	160	8	20
Winterbourne	1,980	365	1,220
Winterbourne Stoke	222	53	192
Woodford	410	117	360
Total	17,494	4,549	15,599

*Includes population supplied from mains owned by Cholderton Water Company or by Government Departments.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Council owns and operates three major sewage disposal works. Two of these are at Amesbury, one situated off Church Street and receiving the discharge from Amesbury and Boscombe Down, and the other at Ratfyn into which sewerage from the parishes of Bulford, Durrington, Figheldean and Milston discharges. The third sewage disposal works at Shrewton serves only that parish at the present time, but will ultimately receive sewerage from the neighbouring parishes of Orcheston and Winterbourne Stoke.

In the eleven remaining parishes in the district, the majority of properties are drained to septic tank systems, but there is still a number which are reliant on the dry conservancy system.

It is to be regretted that another year has passed without a start being made on the works which will form the Bourne Valley Sewerage Scheme. Whilst this delay has been inevitable from the Council's point of view the need for an adequate sewerage system in this area has become even more apparent. The area is one in which the largest amount of development is taking place, and in certain parts of it some difficulty is experienced in the satisfactory disposal of effluents from septic tanks. The delay is also resulting in the Council being unable to carry out the works of modernising their older houses in the parishes which will be served by the scheme. In view of the delay in commencing this work, the Council made application to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government to include the remaining portion of the parish of Idmiston in the work to be carried out under Stage 1 of the scheme.

The Council also has proposals for the future sewerage of the remaining parishes in the district, and of these the parish of Tilshead is considered to be the first priority.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

There has been no change in the milk supply to the district during the year. The bulk of the milk consumed is pasteurised and is processed at, and supplied from, the milk factory at Amesbury. In one or two parishes there is still a demand for untreated milk.

Samples of milk have been taken regularly from all the registered distributors in the district, including producer/retailers. A total of 193 samples were submitted for the statutory tests and biological examination.

The following table shows the number of samples submitted for each examination, together with the results:—

Untreated Milk			Biological Examination			Heat Treated Milk		
No. of Samples Taken	Pass	Fail	No. of Samples Taken	Pass	Fail	No. of Samples Taken	Pass	Fail
63	61	2	21	21	—	Bottles 66	66	—
						Cartons 43	40	3

When unsatisfactory reports were received in respect of samples of raw milk, the producers were interviewed and advised on methods to ensure cleanliness in production, and repeat samples proved satisfactory.

During the year 47 samples of bottle washings were submitted for tests, of which 44 were found to be satisfactory. Following the receipt of unsatisfactory reports, further visits were made to ascertain the cause.

There is only one Registered Dairy in the district. The number of Registered Milk Distributors and Dealers licensed to sell milk under special designations is as follows:—

Registered Milk Distributors in district	...	...	13
Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk (pre-packed)			13
Dealers licensed to sell Untreated Milk	...	...	5

Slaughter Houses

There are no slaughter houses in the district, all fresh meat being obtained from the abattoir in the city of Salisbury.

There is one small factory in the district where poultry is killed and processed, the majority of the throughput being disposed of through the London markets.

There is also one knackers yard in the district, and periodic visits to this establishment, which is also licensed for the slaughter of horses, have shown the general condition to be satisfactory.

Food Premises

Regular inspections were made during the year of the food premises in the district. Any contraventions of the provisions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, noted were of a minor character and were dealt with at the time of inspection. The general standard of food premises remains at a satisfactory level.

The following table shows the number and types of food premises in the district and indicates the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 (personal washing facilities), and also the number of premises to which Regulation 19 (facilities for washing food and equipment) applies and the number so fitted to comply with this Regulation.

<i>No. and Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16</i>	<i>No. of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies</i>	<i>No. of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19</i>
Hotels ... 39	39	39	39
Grocers ... 48	48	48	48
Bakers ... 6	6	6	6
Butchers ... 12	12	12	12
Cafes and Restaurants ... 11	11	11	11
Confectioners ... 15	15	—	—
Greengrocers ... 4	4	4	4
Fish Fryers ... 4	4	4	4
Fishmongers ... 3	3	3	3
Total ... 142	142	127	127

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

There is no manufacture of ice-cream in the district. Routine inspections of the premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream have shown that the Regulations are being complied with.

The number of types of food premises registered under section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows:—

Storage and/or Sale of Ice-Cream	...	...	90
Sausage Making	...	...	5

Meat and Other Food Condemned during 1965

The quantity of meat and other foods condemned during 1965 as being unfit for human consumption is given below:—

Cod Fillets	...	...	28 Pkts.	Cream Dairy Sponge	...	5 No.
Plaice Fillets	...	...	10 „	Chickens	...	3 „
Smoked Haddock Fillets	...	...	12 „	Large Steak and Kidney Pies	...	8 „
Haddock Fillets	...	...	6 „	Stilton Cheese	...	5 lbs
Herrings	...	...	3 „	Steaks	...	18 Pkts.
Hake Portions	...	...	3 „	Faggots in Gravy	...	3 „
Fish Fingers	...	...	13 „	Sliced Beef in Gravy	...	8 „
Fish Sticks	...	...	21 „	Lamb Chops	...	10 „
3 Plaice Portions	...	...	2 „	Steakburgers	...	37 „
2 Cod Steaks	...	...	2 „	Liver in Onion Sauce	...	1 „
4 Fish Cakes	...	...	32 „	Sausage Rolls	...	2 „
Kipper Fillets	...	...	4 „	Quarter Chickens	...	1 „
Crinkle Cut Chips	...	...	12 „	Garden Peas	...	39 „
Choc Ices	...	...	24 No.	Green Beans	...	10 „
Ice Lollies	...	...	24 „	Brussels Sprouts	...	9 „
Ice-cream Blocks	...	...	12 „			

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

The periodic inspections made of premises licensed by the Council for the boiling of waste foods have revealed that the requirements of the Order are being observed.

At the end of the year there were in the district 14 premises licensed under the above Order.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

With the appointment of extra staff it was possible to commence general inspections of all business premises in the Rural District.

A further 35 premises were registered under the Act but three shops were removed from the register—two being found to be self-employed at the time of inspection and another being classified as a factory.

General inspections were started and a total of 136 registered premises initially inspected.

In the main, premises were found to be satisfactory with the exception of the provision of thermometers, abstracts and first aid kits, all of which were purchased soon after inspection.

Apart from minor defects the only major item worthy of report is the provision of a hot water supply. This provision was asked for in a number of cases and in one or two instances necessitated the provision of a sink and wash-hand basin. However, the majority of employers provided this amenity without complaint.

On the whole employers were co-operative and appreciated the need for the provisions required under the Act.

The following table gives details of premises registered at the end of the year:—

Offices	...	...	...	...	...	19
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	92
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Catering Establishments open to the public	...	...	...	...	...	18
Fuel Storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total						<u>137</u>

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1—*Inspections* for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	67	24	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	67	24	—	—

2—Cases in which *Defects* were found:

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	1	—	—	—

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